



# Student Disability Services Student Advisory Board Newsletter

Volume 9, Issue 1

Fall 2013

## **Board Members**

### **Chair:**

Kelvin Crosby

### **Vice Chair:**

Angela Dauer

### **Secretary:**

Katharine Dizaye

### **Members:**

Ludivico Estrada

Papa Gakou

Laura Linden

Patty Loy

Mallory Samaha

### **Faculty Advisor:**

John Johnson

### **Staff Advisor:**

Teresa Spoulos

### **Newsletter Editor:**

Rita Roberson

**Alternative Format  
Available Upon Request**

## **Becoming a Board Member**

The board currently has positions available.

### **Meeting Time & Place**

Fridays, 11:05 AM until  
12 PM

Student Disability Services  
Calpulli Center, Suite 3101  
Conference Room

For more information please  
contact; Teresa Spoulos at

**Phone:** (619) 594-4401

**E-mail:**

tspoulos@mail.sdsu.edu

## **New SDS Director, Dr. Starr**

Introducing Pam Starr, Ph.D. Before her career at Eastern Connecticut State University and her Ph.D in Special Education, she was an Aztec like us. She earned her B.S. in Criminal Justice Administration in 1987 and her M.S. in Rehabilitation Counseling with the Deaf in 1991 at San Diego State University before going to the University of Connecticut to earn her Doctorate in Special Education and Rehabilitation Psychology, which she graduated with in 1999. As an Alumna of SDSU ...

Q. What is one of your favorite memories of SDSU and why?

A. "Going to see concerts at the Open Air Theater – Madonna was the best show I saw there!"

Q. What was one of the challenges you faced and how did you overcome it?

A. "I didn't live on campus as a freshman, so I found it difficult to meet people and make friends. I met a few people during my first semester, but it wasn't until I joined the SDSU Ski Team that I really created my social circle."

Q. What changes have you noticed and what do you like or dislike?

A. "So much has changed, but nothing has changed... the campus still has the same feel and comfort that it did while I was a student despite the

addition of several buildings. I love that most of the new buildings are architecturally similar to the original structures. It made me smile to know they preserved a section of the Aztec Bowl when Viejas Arena was built... I remember running the stairs of the Aztec Bowl for Ski Team training."

Q. Is there anything about yourself that you would like students to know that they may not already know?

A. "I have 3 children, ages 9, 7, and 4, who I adopted in January 2012. I'm excited to share the San Diego sunshine with them!!!"

By Katharine Dizaye, Foods and Nutrition Major, Senior, 2014

### **Warning to Bike Riders:**

Bikes that are locked to railings on ramps AND stairs block access and are safety hazards for some people with disabilities!



**Please Don't Block  
Or Have your Bikes De-Locked!**

By Ludivico Estrada, Multi Media, Senior,  
2015

# Summary of Meet and Greet

On Friday, October 18, 2013 the Student Disability Services Student Advisory Board (SDS SAB) hosted a *Meet and Greet*, in conference room 3, fourth floor, Calpulli Center. Students registered with SDS received an invitation to attend the *Meet and Greet*. Including board members, 26 individuals from the campus community participated in the event. At the *Meet and Greet* two students showed an interest in participating on the board.

Kelvin, board chair, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the board's accomplishments. After the presentation Kelvin led a roundtable discussion where we discussed bicycle and skateboard safety on campus, and obstacles with campus construction zones. Below are the concerns for each topic.

## 1. Bicycle Safety:

- Bicyclists and skateboarders are

riding their bikes and skateboards outside of the bike lane.

- How many Security officers are patrolling the campus for bike and skateboard safety? When and where do they patrol?
  - Security should put a bike rack map on the web, so students know where to lock their bikes.
  - When security gives out bike locks, at the same time they should give the bicyclist a brochure on bike safety and the consequences of locking bikes to places other than the designated racks.
- ## 2. Construction:
- Facilities Services should consider creating a video for new contractors on not blocking wheelchair access when moving construction zone fencing and parking construction vehicles. This video should also include

contractors role in an emergency i.e., fire or blackout.

- When blocking off "do not enter" areas, the campus should use OSHA mesh and not caution tape. OSHA mesh is more visible and individuals with vision impairments who use canes can feel the OSHA mesh where they can't with caution tape.

By Kelvin Crosby,  
Communication Major,  
Senior, 2014 & Teresa  
Spoulos, SDS SAB Staff  
Advisor

# Transitioning into SDSU

It's a great feeling when you are accepted to SDSU after all the hard work that you have put forth at the community college! You have passed all the necessary steps and are now a part of the Aztec Nation!

The process of making sure that everything is just right for you to be successful from the first day of class to the moment you walk across the stage at graduation can be overwhelming! The system of the Disability Support Programs and Services (DSP&S) at the community college is what you are familiar with but now dealing with the magnitude of the University can stop you in your tracks.

Transitioning from Community College to SDSU (as overwhelming as it seems) becomes manageable when it is broken down into a few steps and strategic timing and if you haven't done so there's still time to receive the accommodations that make your success more attainable using these steps:

- ❖ Get a copy of your diagnosis and/or your accommodations letter from your DSP&S counselor at your exiting community college during your last semester.
  - This will be helpful for your new SDS Counselor
- ❖ Go to [http://go.sdsu.edu/student\\_affairs/sds/](http://go.sdsu.edu/student_affairs/sds/) to access all the forms that are needed for an intake appointment and fill them out.
- ❖ Make an appointment with SDS by calling [619-594-6473](tel:619-594-6473) and asking for an intake as a new student / transfer student.
- ❖ Being pre-registered with SDS prior to the semester makes your accommodations active the first day of class and (if you have alternative media) your books can be created prior to the start of semester.

Transferring to SDSU is a monumental occasion! Great job, and keep going! Accessing your accommodations is your right as a student. Even if you are not sure if you are going to be using them

have the accommodations available regardless! Using the accommodations may make it faster for you to study and give you a little time to make valuable friends and experience more student life where you may contribute to making a positive change for future students with Disabilities. Also, as you reach your upper division classes you may find an accommodation is necessary to keep you going towards your goal.

By Tiffany Swan Owenby  
Speech Language Hearing Science  
2010 and grad student  
Rehabilitation Counseling 2015